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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 018987-036

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Taisuke AKAHORI et al.

Application No.: 10/051,244

Filed: January 22, 2002

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,  
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, AND  
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- ☒ No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- ☐ The fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.
- ☐ Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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By: William C. Rowland  
William C. Rowland  
Registration No. 30.888

Date: 2-8-02



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a prior art search has been made.

In addition, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that each of the references submitted herewith is in fact prior art with respect to the present application, or that each of the references is considered to be material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing and before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: 2-8-02

By: William C. Rowland  
William C. Rowland  
Registration No. 30,888

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APPLICATION No.  
10/051,244

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

FILING DATE  
January 22, 2002

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| GROUP      |
| Unassigned |

A circular stamp from the Office of the Patent and Trademark Office. The text "OFFICE OF THE" is at the top, "PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom, and "FEB 08 2002" is in the center. There is a small emblem in the middle of the stamp.

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# FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initials | Foreign Patent Document |                         | Country | Date of Publication<br>(MM-DD-YYYY) | Translation      |    |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----|
|                      | Number                  | Kind Code<br>(if known) |         |                                     | Yes              | no |
|                      | 2000-175032             |                         | Japan   | 06-23-2000                          | Abstract<br>only |    |
|                      | 08-181864               |                         | Japan   | 07-12-1996                          | Abstract<br>only |    |
|                      | 07-264399               |                         | Japan   | 10-13-1995                          | Abstract<br>only |    |
|                      |                         |                         |         |                                     |                  |    |
|                      |                         |                         |         |                                     |                  |    |
|                      |                         |                         |         |                                     |                  |    |
|                      |                         |                         |         |                                     |                  |    |

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

|                       |   |                    |  |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |                    |  |
|                       | U.S. Patent Application No. 09/369,176; "HALFTONE DOT IMAGE DISCRIMINATION METHOD AND IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE"  |                    |  |
|                       | U.S. Patent Application No. 09/568,669; "IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR IMAGE PROCESSING"   |                    |  |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |   | Date<br>Considered |  |

(05/01)